Dorr, L.J. 2012. A new combination in *Chusquea* (Poaceae: Bambusoideae). Phytoneuron 2012-23: 1–2. Published 7 March 2012. ISSN 2153 733X

A NEW COMBINATION IN *CHUSQUEA* (POACEAE: BAMBUSOIDEAE)

L. J. Dorr
Department of Botany, MRC–166
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
P.O. Box 37012
Washington, DC 20013–7012
dorrl@si.edu

ABSTRACT

A new combination, **Chusquea glomerata** (Swallen) Dorr, is proposed for *Neurolepis glomerata* Swallen, a species of bamboo with a disjunct distribution in the Venezuelan Guayana and northern Andes.

KEY WORDS: Bambusoideae, *Chusquea*, Poaceae

Fisher et al. (2009) concluded that chloroplast genomes indicate probable paraphyly of the genus *Neurolepis* Meisn. (1843) with respect to *Chusquea* Kunth (1822) (Poaceae: Bambusoideae). In the same paper, Clark transferred the species of *Neurolepis* to *Chusquea* and proposed a score of new combinations and new names. Both genera have been collected in Guaramacal (Dorr et al., 2000), a national park in the Andes of Venezuela, and as a treatment of the grasses is being finalized for a flora of this area (Dorr et al., in prep.) the names of the bamboo species present in the park were reviewed. In that review it was discovered that a nomen novum proposed in *Chusquea* for *N. glomerata* Swallen was superfluous.

Clark in Fisher et al. (2009) proposed "*Chusquea steyermarkii* L.G. Clark, nom. nov." to replace *Neurolepis glomerata*, as she presumably concluded that a new combination was precluded by "*Chusquea glomerata* Munro." However, this name has no nomenclatural standing, as Munro (1868) merely cited "*Chusquea* (*Rettbergia*) *glomerata*, Munro in herb. Trin. Coll. Dublin" as a synonym of *Merostachys capitata* Hook. (≡ *Athroostachys capitata* (Hook.) Benth.). Furthermore, if a combination based on *N. glomerata* had been blocked, there still would not have been a need to propose a nomen novum, because either one of the two heterotypic synonyms, *N. nigra* Swallen or *N. densiflora* Swallen, that Clark in Fisher et al. (2009) cited was available to serve as a basionym for a new combination in *Chusquea*.

Consequently, the correct name (and synonymy) for *Neurolepis glomerata* in *Chusquea* is this:

Chusquea glomerata (Swallen) Dorr, comb. nov. Basionym: *Neurolepis glomerata* Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 399. 1957. *Chusquea steyermarkii* L.G. Clark in A.E. Fisher et al., Syst. Bot. 34: 681. 2009, nom. superfl. **Type: Venezuela.** Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, *Bonnetia* forest, northwestern part of summit of Abácapa-tepuí, 2125–2300 m, 13 Apr 1953 (fl), *J.A. Steyermark 74925* pro parte (holotype: US-2182879!; isotypes: F-2 sheets, MO-fragment, NY, US-2182878!; probable isotype: US-2182881!).

Chusquea glomerata Munro, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 26(1): 50. 1868, nom. nud., pro syn.

Neurolepis densiflora Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 399. 1957. **Type: Venezuela.** Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, lower mixed *Bonnetia* forest above southeast-facing upper shoulder on slope leading to summit of Apácara-tepuí, 2000–2150 m, 20 Jun 1953 (fl), *J.A. Steyermark 75806* (holotype: US-2 sheets!; isotypes: F, NY).

Neurolepis nigra Swallen in Maguire et al., Mem. New York Bot. Gard. 9: 400. 1957. **TYPE: Venezuela.** Bolívar: Chimantá Massif, Central Section, open forested laterite slopes along tributary of east branch of headwaters of Río Tirica, 2185–2210 m, 13 Feb 1955 (fl), *J.A. Steyermark & J.J. Wurdack 860* (holotype: US-3 sheets!; isotypes: NY-3 sheets).

LITERATURE CITED

Dorr, L.J., B. Stergios, A.R. Smith, and N.L. Cuello A. 2000 [2001]. Catalogue of the vascular plants of Guaramacal National Park, Portuguesa and Trujillo states, Venezuela. Contr. U.S. Natl. Herb. 40: 1–155.

Fisher, A.E., J.K. Triplett, C.-S. Ho, A.D. Schiller, K.A. Oltrogge, E.S. Schroder, S.A. Kelchner, and L.G. Clark. 2009. Paraphyly in the bamboo subtribe Chusqueinae (Poaceae: Bambusoideae) and a revised infrageneric classification for *Chusquea*. Syst. Bot. 34: 673–683.

Munro, W. 1868. A monograph of the Bambusaceae, including descriptions of all the species. Trans. Linn. Soc. London 26(1): 1–157.